
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2021

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Division of Criminal Investigation

Background

The Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) was created in 1921 to provide investigative support and expertise to law enforcement agencies across the State. The Division is comprised of four areas.

Criminalistics Laboratory

The Criminalistics Laboratory or “Crime Lab” was created by statute in July 1969 and funded in July 1970. The Crime Lab consists of the following sections:

- Arson
- Breath Alcohol
- Crime Scene Processing
- DNA
- Drug Identification
- Evidence Room
- Firearms and Tool Marks
- Latent Prints and Impression Identification
- Photography
- Quality Assurance
- Questioned Documents
- Toxicology
- Trace Evidence

Field Operations Bureau

The Field Operations Bureau assists local, State, and federal law enforcement agencies. The Bureau consists of:

- Major Crime Unit
- Missing Person Information Clearinghouse
- Cyber Crime Unit

Special Enforcement (Gaming) Operations Bureau

The Special Enforcement Operations Bureau was created in 1989 to ensure public confidence and trust in Iowa’s gaming industry. Primary duties are to conduct criminal investigations and background investigations and to provide regulatory enforcement at Iowa’s licensed casinos. Other duties include enforcing Iowa’s laws in reference to illegal gambling and regulating amusement devices, social and charitable gaming, lotteries, and tribal gaming compacts. Since July 1, 2010, the operating budget for the Special Enforcement Operations Bureau has been appropriated from the Gaming Enforcement Revolving Fund created in Iowa Code section 80.43. The Bureau includes:

- Riverboat/Pari-mutuel Gaming Enforcement

More Information

Department of Public Safety: www.dps.state.ia.us

Division of Criminal Investigation: www.dps.state.ia.us/DCI/index.shtml

LSA Staff Contact: Christin Mechler (515.281.6561) christin.mechler@legis.iowa.gov

- Amusement Device/Social and Charitable Gaming Enforcement
- Iowa Class A, C, and D Background Applications

Support Operations Bureau

The Support Operations Bureau provides administrative support to the DCI. It also collects, maintains, and provides information vital to law enforcement agencies and the general public. Units within the Bureau include:

- Administrative Support/Transcription Unit
- AFIS/Fingerprint Unit
- Records and Identification Unit
- Criminal History Dissemination Unit
- Sex Offender Registry and Investigation Unit

Funding

The DCI is funded from various funding sources. The Field Operations Bureau is funded primarily through a State General Fund appropriation supporting the entire Bureau and through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) grants that are dedicated to the Internet Crimes Against Children unit. The Support Operations Bureau is funded entirely through the criminal history fee authorized by Iowa Code chapter 692 and set in Iowa Administrative Code 661, ch. 82. The Criminalistics Laboratory is funded through a State General Fund appropriation, a portion of the Criminal Fine Revenue Surcharge earmarked through a special State General Fund appropriation, federal grants, and pass-through funds from the DOJ (Internet Crimes Against Children, Forensic Science Improvement grants), Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau grants (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration), and the Office of the President (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)).

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [80](#) and [692](#)

Iowa Code section [80.43](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [661](#)

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